

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure beginning on line 1 of page 72 of the application to read as follows:

A method and system for managing the routing of traffic within a network develops a topological address space map of the network to enable a “best route” selection process. The network is comprised of a backbone connected to a plurality of peering partners. Points on the network monitor traffic flows. A central facility analyzes the traffic flows and routes within the network and performs intelligent routing management. Intelligent routing management ensures that traffic is properly routed through preferred routes on the network, and avoids inefficient routing. Intelligent routing management also selects new routes to be injected into the network in order to further improve the accuracy of the topological address space map of the network. Intelligent routing management ensures that bandwidth is requested and delivered topologically closely to peering partner networks, and that traffic is carried by the backbone for long haul data distribution in both directions.